

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 607

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Central High School and its administration, faculty, staff, and student body on the occasion of the school's 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary educational institutions that have made significant contributions, through an abiding commitment to excellence, to their respective communities and this State; and

WHEREAS, Central High School is most assuredly one such noteworthy institution that has provided educational opportunities to the students of Chattanooga for the past 100 years; and

WHEREAS, first located on Dodds Avenue, Central High School was founded in 1907; originally serving students in grades 7-12, the neoclassical structure received major additions between 1921 and 1950 to accommodate its growing enrollment; and

WHEREAS, the first high school in Hamilton County to offer a full four-year academic program, Central has continued to be a fully accredited member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools since 1919; and

WHEREAS, by 1969, the last term for its then 1,058 member student body, the venerable school building had deteriorated to such an extent that a new facility was constructed on Highway 58 to replace it; and

WHEREAS, when the new Central High School debuted in 1969, its multi-pod structure with sheltered common areas was heralded as an architectural triumph, and its college-preparatory curriculum was hailed as progressive; and

WHEREAS, highlights in the school's history include Central being chosen as one of the top 241 schools in the United States and one of the top seven schools in Tennessee, and in

1987, the United States Department of Education named Central High School as a Nation's School of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, other milestones in Central's history include being chosen as the Tennessee recipient of the twenty-seventh National Bellamy Flag Award, receiving Freedom Foundations Awards, and winning eleven state athletic championships; and

WHEREAS, Central High graduates have included a presidential scholar as well as a national merit scholarship winner, but perhaps the most illuminating fact in Central's august history is the record of outstanding service rendered by its graduates; and

WHEREAS, one of the distinguishing features of Central High School through the years has been the indescribable school spirit, which is a tremendous force for the success of any institution; and

WHEREAS, as Central High School surpasses its 100th birthday, it continues to meet the educational needs and concerns of the twenty-first century; along with a continuum of past traditions and achievements, promoting academic excellence remains the school's top priority; and

WHEREAS, Central High School continues to be a bastion of excellence in academics and life, molding young minds into the scholars and leaders of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, the members of this body find it appropriate to pause in recognition and celebration of the 100th anniversary of Central High School; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the administration, faculty, staff, and student body of Central High School on the occasion of the School's 100th anniversary and extend to them our warmest wishes for continued success in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.